



8 March 2023

The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Dear Sir/Madam

**A12 CHELMSFORD TO A120 WIDENING SCHEME
PROPOSED FOOTBRIDGE AT WITHAM**

Included in the proposals for widening the A12, is a proposal to reinstate a footpath that hasn't existed since the current bypass was built in the mid 1960's? It is proposed to provide a footbridge, on the grassed area at the southern end of Olivers Drive, Witham.



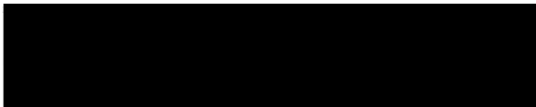
The footbridge is intended to replace a footpath that was removed some sixty years ago. I understand that it is meant to provide access for pedestrians, cyclists, and horseriders, to cross from one side of the A12, over to the other side. I cannot imagine any responsible rider taking their horse up a ramp, across the bridge, and then down a ramp on the other side. Apart from disruption to the grassed ban, the works will include the removal of several trees that currently line the A12.

I live 200 metres from the intended location of the footbridge. I wish to object to this footbridge proposal, for the following reasons.

1. The footbridge is intended to replace a public footpath. The footpath was lost over sixty years ago when the current A12 was constructed. In those passing years no one (to my knowledge) has requested a replacement.
2. In order to get to the footbridge the would be cyclist, and horseriders, will be required to go through a large residential estates.
3. There is already a perfectly good route providing access from one side of the A12, over to the other. It is called Maldon Road. It goes underneath the A12. It provides access for motorists, cyclists, horseriders and pedestrians. It leads to Olivers Nursery, and further on to James Cook Wood. It also provides access to Benton Golf course, and Wickham Bishops. (See attached section of Google Map
4. It will involve the removal of several well established trees, which will not be replaced.
5. It will be an un-necessary expense
6. It will be an eyesore, a blot on the landscape.

I submit my objection for your consideration.

Yours faithfully

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of John Holt.

John Holt
(Resident)

